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20 May 1960

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Present: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Mr. Bissell, Mr. Amory,
Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Helms, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Sheldon,
Mr. Abbot Smith, [redacted]

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MR. DULLES:

Noted the possibility of an investigation by the Congress
probably during the next session) of the U-2 incident, and directed
Mr. Bissell to have Colonel Burke prepare a complete record of
all U-2 flights, to include authorizations.

GENERAL CABELL:

a. Reported on the Air Force proposal that CIA be appointed
the executive agent for handling the read-out of the take from Samos.
After some discussion, the Director said there was no objection to
our participating in a cooperative study to decide who should have
this responsibility.

b. Noted at yesterday's USIB meeting General Erskine had
suggested that steps be taken to unite labor behind the President in
the stand he has taken on the U-2 and the Paris Summit Conference.
General Cabell said that the State Department (Mr. Cumming) had
taken note of this. The Director commented he felt this was a matter
more within the purview of that Department rather than CIA.

MR. BISSELL:

Reported he had been shown some photographs taken by a Life
correspondent in Moscow of the U-2, and commented these are the
best he has seen to date. He said it would appear that the punctures
in the wing would have to have been made on the ground, and this is
being checked out with the hope of disproving the Soviet statement that
the U-2 had been shot down at high altitude by a ground-to-air missile.
Mr. Bissell also said that Lockheed and Pratt & Whitney are desirous
of running tests on the U-2 to determine the cause of the flameout if
there was one. In response to a query from the Director, Mr. Bissell
indicated that the Air Force would participate in these tests. The DCI
remarked he saw no objection to going ahead with the tests in question.